

Historic Area

Visit the historic area for an introduction to the early years of Jewel Cave National Monument. This area is open during the summer season and gives visitors a chance to see the original cave entrance as well as the historic ranger cabin. The cabin was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. It was home to the monument's first permanent ranger in the early 1940s. National Park Service rangers wear the period uniform to conduct the Candlelight Tour which

also begins at the cabin. The cave entrance is a short walk down a rock staircase also built by the CCC in the 1930s.

During your visit to Jewel Cave, plan to spend some time in our historic area. Picnic tables are available to have a leisurely meal. There is a trail to the visitor center that is 9/10 of a mile in length. It is a good way to see how the forest is recovering from the Jasper Fire of 2000.

Hiking Trails

**Walk on the Roof Trail-** This ¼ - mile loop is a self- guiding trail. Visit the “roof” of Jewel Cave and discover the relationship between the monument’s surface and subsurface resources.

**Canyons Trail-** This 3- 1/2 mile loop trail provides an opportunity to become more familiar with surface resources and geologic features at the monument. Hell Canyon, Lithograph Canyon, limestone cliffs, the ponderosa pine forest, deer, bats,

birds, and wildflowers are just a few of the resources the National Park Service has been entrusted to preserve at Jewel Cave National Monument.

The hiking trails also provide an opportunity to see how the forest has recovered since the Jasper Fire. **Maps, wildflower and bird** guides are available at the visitor center.

Education

Cave tour fees may be waived for qualifying education groups participating on the Scenic tour. The tour must be part of the group’s educational curriculum and the educational objectives must relate to the cave resources.

Reservations and a fee waiver application are required; Jewel Cave must be contacted at least 3 weeks in advance. Please contact the visitor center for more information.

Information

For more information about the surrounding area call:

**Custer Chamber of Commerce**  
1- 800- 992- 9818  
(SD 1- 605- 673- 2244)

**Newcastle Chamber of Commerce**  
1- 307- 746- 2739

**Black Hills National Forest**  
1- 605- 673- 9200

